The SCHOOL OF EDUCATION’s GRADUATION CELEBRATION!!!
Thursday, May 9, 2013 - Campus Center Auditorium

The Ronald H. Fredrickson Center for School Outcome Research & Evaluation

Celebration of the renaming of the School of Education’s Center for School Counseling Outcome Research and Evaluation
in honor of
Professor Emeritus Ronald H. Fredrickson
and CSCORE’s 10th anniversary
Saturday, May 4, 2013  6-11  p.m.
Registration details at www.cscor.org

The Beacon Deadline is FRIDAY
• Please submit general news and announcements to: dms@educ.umass.edu by 5:00 P.M. on Friday for inclusion in the following issue.
• All assistantship notices will run in two issues.
• Please submit notices of examinations and formation of dissertation committees to Linda Guthrie. These types of announcements will run for one week.

http://www.umass.edu/education/news/beacon
Digital Signatures Accepted

The School of Education’s online Masters, CAGS and Doctoral Degree forms, as well as the individualized study and practicum contracts, are now set up to accept digital signatures. Please note that the University will not accept digital signatures on their Degree Eligibility Form. Digital signatures will allow us to streamline our processes and thus better serve students.

The student should be a steward of his or her own process and responsible for acquiring all signatures. The following outlines the steps in the procedure:

- Student completes the required form, and e-mails it as an attachment to the first required signer on the form.
- The first signature faculty member then signs, saves it as a new file and returns the signed copy to the student.
- The student then continues this process obtaining all committee members signatures.

Documentation that explains the procedure for creating a digital signature can be found at the School of Education website at the following link:

http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/forms

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

ANDREA D. DOMINGUE  April 1, 2013,  3:00 - 5:00 p.m.,  Room 155, Hills South.  
Chairperson:  Dr. Maurianne Adams.
**GRADUATE SCHOOL FELLOWSHIPS for CURRENT STUDENTS**

Nominations for the Graduate School Fellowship are now being solicited by the Graduate School. **The purpose of this Fellowship is to promote the recruitment and retention of academically excellent students.**

**ONE** student may be nominated from each of the School of Education’s departments and **ONE** from School Psychology.

Award includes a stipend of $17,000, tuition waiver, curriculum fee waiver and mandatory health fee coverage.

**CURRENT** graduate students need to submit the following:

1) Fellowship nomination form* **to be completed by student’s chairperson.**
2) Personal statement by the student (Statement & CV not to exceed 3 pages, in Times New Roman 12 pt. font)
3) CV (include papers delivered, publications, performances, exhibits, service to the University/community)
4) Graduate Program Director recommendation letter (Linda Griffin will write a recommendation for those she nominates)
5) 2 faculty recommendation letters* (one must be from chair/advisor)
6) Unofficial copy of student’s latest graduate transcript (available from SPIRE)

*Faculty Recommendation and Nomination forms are available from Linda Guthrie, 123 Furcolo or by email (lguthrie@educ.umass.edu).

Criteria used by the committee to rank applications are listed in order of importance as follows:

1) Recommendation from Linda Griffin, Graduate Program Director
2) Two letters of recommendation from faculty
3) Curriculum Vitae
4) Personal statement
5) Student’s graduate transcript

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT COMPLETE NOMINATIONS TO YOUR DEPARTMENTAL OFFICE (117 for TECS students and 161 Hills South for SD & EPRA students) IS:**

**APRIL 16, 2013**
Faculty, students, staff & alumni share what they are doing

**Theresa Austin**, professor, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, language, literacy and culture concentration, was elected to the American Educational Research Association’s (AERA) Special Interest Group’s Executive Committee. The Special Interest Groups (SIGs) have a forum within AERA for the involvement of individuals drawn together by a common interest in a field of study, teaching, or research. Austin’s research is at intersection of bilingualism, second language and multimodal literacy development in world languages, assessment, cross cultural communication and teacher development, and language and literacy policy.

**Yvonne Hilyard** (M.Ed. 2008), a second and third grade science teacher at Morgan School, Holyoke, is one of seven recipients of the 2013 Pioneer Valley Awards for Excellence in Education. The award, supported by the Harold Grinspoon Charitable Foundation, rewards exceptional public and parochial school teacher in our region and is meant to encourage them to remain in the teaching field.

Nominees must be certified by the State of Massachusetts and must demonstrate professionalism through: excellence in teaching practices; his or her own professional development; good attendance on the job; enthusiasm for teaching and/or working with children.

As a nominee for the award, Hilyard was described as follows: “Her lessons are hands-on and rigorous. She maintains a high level of expectation for all of her students and teaches lessons where all students experience success. She is committed to her own professional growth. She is dedicated to ensuring that the needs of our ELL populations are being met by attending trainings... (She has) an enthusiastic and an engaging personality that translates to her lessons, drawing her students in and keeping them captivated...Yvonne has the respect of those who work with her....She is committed to working with students and their families to provide them with the best learning opportunities, helping them to be successful lifelong learners.” Read more about Hilyard and the Excellence in Teaching Awards at [http://www.hps.holyoke.ma.us/grinspoon.html](http://www.hps.holyoke.ma.us/grinspoon.html)

Please send items of interest to: dms@educ.umass.edu

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**ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION**

**REBECCA ALLEN-OLEET**  
March 26, 2013,  8:45 a.m., Room 151, Hills South. "Increasing Middle School Teachers' Use of Specific Praise in the Classroom Through Consultation and Performance Feedback."

Chairperson: Dr. Sara Whitcomb.
Dr. Ron Eglash

The Triple Helix

STEM Education, Social Justice, and Technoscience

Tuesday
April 2, 2013

4:00-5:30
Furcolo 222

Dr. Eglash is a professor at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He earned his BS in Cybernetics, MS in Systems Engineering, and PhD in History of Consciousness from the University of California. Dr. Eglash is known for his work as an ethnomathematician, and his research of fractal patterns and transformational geometry as they exist in African and Native American cultures. He also studies social justice issues within the fields of science and technology.

Research in science and technology is often driven by industrial and military concerns, with STEM education as an occasional "outreach" for public benefit. The Triple Helix project (www.3helix.rpi.edu) flips these priorities, exploring social justice concerns—in particular but not limited to STEM education in low-income communities—as a driver of innovation in science and technology research. A central focus has been a suite of online applets, "Culturally Situated Design Tools," that allow underrepresented groups (African American, Native American and Latino) to simulate cultural artifacts and practices using the math and computing ideas of the original artisans. These simulations also offer links to community-based research in technologies to enhance design practices, social entrepreneurship and sustainability.